Jobs for people in rural areas

1172. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide jobs to the people of rural areas in Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and North-Eastern Region States;

(b) if so, the details of villages in these States where the people have been provided employment opportunities;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) The Government are implementing both wage employment and self-employment schemes in the rural areas of all the States including Uttaranchal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and North-Eastern Region. The details of the major employment generation programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development are given below:—

(1) *Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)*: The objective of the Programme is to bring the assisted poor families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line by providing them income-generating assets through a mix of Bank Credit and Governmental subsidy.

(2) *Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)*: The primary objective of the Programme is creation of additional wage-employment opportunities during the period of acute shortage of wage employment through manual work for the rural poor living below the poverty line. The secondary objective is the creation of durable community assets for sustained employment and development.

(3) *Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)*: The primary objective of the Programme is creation of demand driven community village infrastructure including durable assets at the village level and

to enable the rural poor to increase the opportunities for sustained employment. The secondary objective is generation of wage employment for the unemployed poor in the rural areas.

(4) *Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY):* This Programme has been launched on 25th September, 2001 with the objective of creation of wage employment opportunities in the rural areas and also to provide food security, alongside the creation of durable community, social and economic assets and infra-structure developments in these areas. The Programmes of EAS and JGSY will be merged fully with this Scheme from 1st April, 2002.

Development of rural marketing

1173. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for the development of Rural Marketing as well as improvement of rural economy by benefiting small and marginal farmers in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture to examine the existing marketing system in the country, has made several recommendations for strengthening and developing agricultural marketing in the country. The main recommendations of the Expert Committee are:

(i) Government need to examine existing legal framework governing the institutions of regulated markets and remove all such restrictive provision which inhibit growth of a competitive marketing structure in the country.

(ii) Government need to promote direct marketing of agricultural produce by the farmers to maximize their share in the price.

(iii) More commodities should be added to the list of commodities allowed for forward and futures trading to reduce